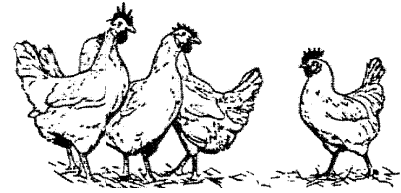


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U.S. APRIL EGG PRODUCTION

U.S. egg production totaled 6.77 billion during April 1999, up 3 percent from the 6.60 billion produced in 1998. Production included 5.69 billion table eggs and 1.08 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.01 billion were broiler-type and 67.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during April 1999 averaged 321 million, up 3 percent from the total average number of layers during April 1998. April egg production per 100 layers was 2,109 eggs, down fractionally from 2,117 eggs in April 1998.

All layers in the U.S. on May 1, 1999 totaled 320 million, up 3 percent from a year ago. The 320 million layers consisted of 261 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 56.8 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.77 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on May 1, 1999 averaged 69.5 eggs per 100 layers, down fractionally from the 69.6 a year ago.

CALIFORNIA EGG PRODUCTION

California's egg production during April totaled 525 million, 45.0 million less than last month and 12.0 million less than last April. Total number of layers during the month averaged 25.1 million, fractionally below April 1998. Eggs per 100 layers during the month were 2,089, compared to 2,217 last month and 2,134 in April 1998.

LAYER NUMBERS AND EGG PRODUCTION DURING APRIL, FORCED MOLTING AS OF MAY 1

State	Average Number of Layers on Hand		Eggs Per 100 Layers		Total Egg Production		Layers Being Molted		Layers With Molt Completed	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	Thousands		Number		Millions		Percent			
Alabama	10,980	10,676	1,903	1,911	209	204	3.0	1.5	12.0	11.0
Arkansas	14,772	15,069	1,848	1,891	273	285	3.0	2.5	8.0	9.0
California	25,160	25,129	2,134	2,089	537	525	9.5	11.0	32.0	37.5
Georgia	21,183	20,913	2,068	2,018	438	422	6.0	5.5	13.5	17.5
Indiana	21,443	21,934	2,197	2,156	471	473	5.0	4.0	23.0	30.0
Iowa	22,937	25,398	2,162	2,205	496	560	6.0	5.5	33.5	31.5
North Carolina	11,286	11,504	1,861	1,878	210	216	3.0	2.5	9.0	7.5
Ohio	27,770	30,829	2,197	2,271	610	700	4.0	3.0	13.5	12.5
Pennsylvania	21,944	22,590	2,260	2,249	496	508	4.5	6.0	16.5	17.0
Texas	17,154	17,477	2,104	2,031	361	355	7.0	6.5	16.0	21.0
U.S. TOTAL	311,917	320,942	2,117	2,109	6,603	6,770	5.5	5.6	20.0	21.8

PACIFIC COAST AND UNITED STATES COLD STORAGE

Commodity	Unit	April 1998	March 1999 <u>a/</u>	April 1999	<u>Apr. 1999</u> <u>Apr. 1998</u>	<u>Apr. 1999</u> <u>Mar. 1999</u>
		Thousands			Percent	
PACIFIC COAST						
Turkeys	Lbs.	84,451	52,551	68,466	81	130
Chickens	Lbs.	36,937	47,304	51,668	140	109
Ducks	Lbs.	382	81	146	38	180
Total Frozen Poultry	Lbs.	121,770	99,936	120,280	99	120
UNITED STATES						
Turkeys	Lbs.	579,664	370,654	444,287	77	120
Chickens	Lbs.	707,550	787,912	800,192	113	102
Ducks	Lbs.	4,313	5,868	6,039	140	103
Total Frozen Poultry	Lbs.	1,291,527	1,164,434	1,250,518	97	107
Eggs, Frozen	Lbs.	9,222	9,238	9,356	101	101

a/ Revised.

U.S. BROILER HATCH

The April 1999 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 734 million, was up 4 percent from April of the previous year. Eggs in incubators totaled 635 million on May 1, 1999. This was up 4 percent from a year earlier.

Leading breeders placed 7.04 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during April 1999. This was up 5 percent from April 1998.

BROILER-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, APRIL

State	1998	1999	1999/1998
	Thousands	Thousands	Percent
Alabama	91,882	95,221	104
Arkansas	104,470	105,621	101
Delaware	16,184	16,288	101
Florida	9,776	10,224	105
Georgia	105,855	110,313	104
Maryland	30,854	30,996	100
Mississippi	63,460	64,211	101
North Carolina	61,740	63,137	102
Pennsylvania	12,407	12,782	103
South Carolina	14,493	16,232	112
Texas	43,746	48,901	112
Virginia	23,737	23,845	100
California, Tennessee, and West Virginia	38,751	40,265	104
Other States ^{1/}	90,905	96,304	106
United States	708,260	734,340	104

^{1/} Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

U.S. EGG-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED

Egg-type chicks hatched during April totaled 42.0 million, up 8 percent from April 1998. Eggs in incubators totaled 35.4 million on May 1, 1999. This was down 1 percent from a year ago.

Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 287 thousand during April 1999. This was down 14 percent from April 1998.

EGG-TYPE CHICKS HATCHED, APRIL

State	1998	1999	1999/1998
	Thousands	Thousands	Percent
Arkansas	846	764	90
Florida	1,231	1,236	100
Georgia	2,213	2,033	92
Indiana	7,487	8,260	110
Iowa	4,662	5,254	113
Kansas	393	463	118
Minnesota	1,870	2,012	108
Missouri	387	388	100
Pennsylvania	5,570	6,527	117
Other States ^{1/}	14,384	15,106	105
United States	39,043	42,043	108

^{1/} Not published separately to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

EGGS IN INCUBATORS, MAY 1

Geographic Division	Broiler-Type			Egg-Type		
	1998	1999	1999/1998	1998	1999	1999/1998
	Thousands	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Thousands	Percent
N Atlantic	12,546	11,548	92	6,211	5,688	92
E N Central	8,918	8,230	92	8,900	8,922	100
W N Central	24,151	23,772	98	6,647	7,126	107
S Atlantic	232,982	239,753	103	5,241	4,746	91
S Central	307,975	324,887	105	3,421	3,815	112
West	23,995	26,383	110	5,387	5,098	95
United States	610,567	634,573	104	35,807	35,395	99

U.S. TURKEY HATCHERY PRODUCTION

On May 1, 1999, U.S. turkey eggs in incubators totaled 33.4 million, up slightly from May 1 a year ago. Eggs in incubators were down 1 percent from the April 1 total of 33.7 million. Regional changes from the previous year were as follows: East North Central, up 5 percent; West North Central, up 7 percent; North and South Atlantic, down 8 percent; South Central, down 7 percent; West, up 6 percent.

The 26.9 million poultts placed during April 1999 in the United States were up 4 percent from the number placed during the same month a year ago. Placements were up 3 percent from the March total of 26.2 million. Regional changes from the previous year were as follows: East North Central, up 1 percent; West North Central, up 14 percent; North and South Atlantic, down 7 percent; South Central, up 9 percent; West, up 9 percent.

ALL TURKEYS

Geographic Division	Eggs in Incubators May 1		1999	Poults Placed during April 1/		1999
	1998	1999	1998	1998	1999	1998
	Thousands	Thousands	Pct.	Thousands	Thousands	Pct.
E N Central	4,756	4,985	105	3,809	3,866	101
W N Central	10,388	11,108	107	8,063	9,228	114
N & S Atlantic	10,350	9,531	92	8,316	7,712	93
S Central	3,799	3,540	93	2,802	3,051	109
West	4,003	4,232	106	2,757	2,999	109
U.S.	33,296	33,396	100	25,747	26,856	104

^{1/} Excludes exported poultts.

TURKEY POULT PLACEMENTS WITHIN THE UNITED STATES ^{1/}

Month	Total All Breeds		98-99	Cumulative Total		98-99
	1997-98	1998-99	97-98	1997-98	1998-99	97-98
	Thousands	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Thousands	Percent
Sept.	23,907	21,124	88	23,907	21,124	88
Oct.	24,587	22,749	93	48,494	43,873	90
Nov.	23,281	22,167	95	71,775	66,040	92
Dec.	25,711	24,985	97	97,486	91,025	93
Jan.	26,240	24,448	93	123,726	115,473	93
Feb.	25,093	23,604	94	148,819	139,077	93
Mar.	26,362	26,170	99	175,181	165,247	94
Apr.	25,747	26,856	104	200,928	192,103	96
May	25,677			226,605		
June	26,957			253,562		
July	26,247			279,809		
Aug.	24,450			304,259		

^{1/} Excludes exported poultts.

EGG PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Egg producers in California produced 6.61 billion eggs in 1998, 1 percent below the 6.66 billion produced in 1997. The value of eggs produced totaled \$309 million, down 10 percent from the previous year's value of \$345 million.

Nationally, the value of egg production in 1998 was \$4.35 billion, down 4 percent from the \$4.54 billion in 1997. Egg production totaled 79.7 billion eggs, up 3 percent from the 77.5 billion eggs produced in 1997. In 1998, eggs averaged 65.5 cents per dozen, compared with 70.3 cents in 1997.

EGG PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Year	Eggs Produced	Price Per Dozen	Value of Production
	Millions	Cents	Thousand Dollars
CALIFORNIA			
1989	7,579	65.9	416,213
1990	7,711	63.3	406,755
1991	7,721	58.4	375,755
1992	7,224	47.6	286,552
1993	7,029	49.1	287,603
1994	6,602	46.4	255,277
1995	6,444	53.7	288,869
1996	6,569	67.1	367,317
1997	6,663	62.1	344,810
1998	6,608	56.1	308,924
UNITED STATES			
1997	77,532	70.3	4,539,929
1998	79,717	65.5	4,349,521

BROILER PRODUCTION AND VALUE

This year, broiler production for California was combined with six other states (CA, IA, IN, LA, ME, OR₂ and WA) to avoid disclosing production of individual operations. These seven states produced 605 million bird totaling 2.44 billion pounds. Average price per pound was 39.3 cents per pound for a total production value of \$959 million.

Nationally, the value of broilers produced during 1998 was \$15.1 billion, up 7 percent from the \$14.2 billion in 1997. The total number of broilers produced in 1998 was 7.93 billion, up 2 percent from 1997. The total amount of live weight broilers produced in 1998 was 38.6 billion pounds, up 3 percent from 1997. The 1998 average price per pound on a live weight equivalent basis was 39.3 cents per pound, compared to 37.7 cents per pound in 1997.

BROILER PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Year	Number Produced	Pounds Produced	Price Per Pound 1/	Value of Production 2/
	Thousand Head	Thousand Pounds	Cents	Thousand Dollars
CALIFORNIA				
1989	223,130	1,048,711	34.5	361,805
1990	231,100	1,109,280	30.5	338,330
1991	240,200	1,152,960	29.0	334,358
1992	233,000	1,188,300	29.5	350,549
1993	216,000	1,101,600	32.0	352,512
1994	226,200	1,131,000	33.0	373,230
1995	235,800	1,179,000	32.5	383,175
1996	234,200	1,171,000	39.0	456,690
1997	237,300	1,210,200	39.0	471,978
1998 3/	506,100	2,437,500	39.3	958,714
UNITED STATES				
1997	7,760,260	37,523,400	37.7	14,152,519
1998	7,934,280	38,553,600	39.3	15,144,551

1/ Live weight equivalent price.

2/ Gross income including home consumption.

3/ Data for CA, IA, IN, LA, ME, OR₂ and WA were combined to avoid disclosing individual operations.

TURKEY PRODUCTION AND VALUE

California turkey production totaled 443 million pounds (live weight) in 1998, 8 percent less than the 481 million pounds raised in 1997. Value of production, at \$182 million, was 10 percent below the \$202 million realized in 1997. The annual average of 41 cents per pound was one cent below the 1997 average of 42 cents per pound.

Nationally, the value of turkeys produced during 1998 was \$2.66 billion, down 8 percent from the \$2.88 billion the previous year. Turkey production in 1998 totaled 7.00 billion pounds live weight, compared with 7.23 billion pounds in 1997. The average price received by producers during 1998 was 38.0 cents per pound, compared with 39.9 cents in 1997.

TURKEY PRODUCTION AND VALUE

Year	Number Raised	Pounds Produced 1/	Price Per Pound 2/	Value of Production
	Thousand Head	Thousand Pounds	Cents	Thousand Dollars
CALIFORNIA				
1989	30,200	664,400	38.0	252,472
1990	31,500	711,900	38.0	270,522
1991	29,000	652,500	37.0	241,425
1992	24,000	508,800	39.0	198,432
1993	22,500	486,000	43.0	208,980
1994	21,000	449,400	43.0	193,242
1995	22,000	462,000	46.0	212,520
1996	22,500	492,750	45.0	221,738
1997	21,000	480,900	42.0	201,978
1998	19,000	442,700	41.0	181,507
UNITED STATES				
1997	301,251	7,225,059	40.0	2,884,377
1998	283,503	7,002,768	38.0	2,661,706

1/ Includes home consumption.

2/ Live weight equivalent price.

CHICKEN VALUE OF SALES

California's total value of other chickens (excluding broilers) sold in 1998 was \$1.64 million, 33 percent greater than the value of a year earlier. Average price for other chickens was 3.4 cents per pound, compared to 2.3 cents per pound last year.

Nationally, the value of sales from chickens (excluding broilers) in 1998 was \$75.5 million, up 6 percent from the \$71.5 million a year ago. Prices averaged eight cents per pound, compared with 7.7 cents in 1997.

CHICKEN PRODUCTION AND VALUE 1/

Year	Number Sold	Price Per Pound	Value
	Thousand Head	Cents	Thousand Dollars
CALIFORNIA			
1989	18,600	7.8	6,093
1990	20,000	6.0	4,920
1991	19,600	3.1	2,430
1992	20,000	2.0	1,520
1993	18,100	2.4	1,651
1994	14,300	2.0	1,058
1995	13,300	1.9	910
1996	11,600	2.0	812
1997	15,300	2.3	1,232
1998	13,749	3.4	1,636
UNITED STATES			
1997	190,986	7.7	71,461
1998	193,768	8.0	75,542

1/ Excludes commercial broilers.

PRICES PAID FOR POULTRY FEED

Region	Unit	April 1998	Apr. 15, 1999
		Dollars	
PACIFIC REGION			
Chick Starter Feed	Ton	299	234
Broiler Grower Feed	Ton	271	237
Turkey Grower Feed	Ton	283	287
Laying Feed	Ton	236	217
UNITED STATES			
Chick Starter Feed	Ton	268	242
Broiler Grower Feed	Ton	257	242
Turkey Grower Feed	Ton	278	261
Laying Feed	Ton	224	208

POULTRY AND EGG PRICES

The average April prices received by California producers, when compared to March average prices, decreased 1.6 cents per pound for broilers and three cents per pound for live turkeys. Prices for market eggs decreased 10.6 cents per dozen.

Nationally, the April average prices received by producers decreased 1.5 cents per pound for broilers, but increased 1.7 cents per pound for live turkeys. Market egg prices decreased 9.9 cents per dozen.

POULTRY AND EGG AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY PRODUCERS, COMPARISONS 1/

Commodity	Unit	April 1998	Mar. 15, 1999	Apr. 15, 1999
		Cents		
CALIFORNIA				
Chickens-Broilers	Lb.	36.5	38.0	36.4
Market Eggs 2/	Doz.	54.5	56.5	45.9
Turkeys	Lb.	37.0	44.0	41.0
UNITED STATES				
Chickens-Broilers	Lb.	36.4	35.8	34.3
Market Eggs 2/	Doz.	49.5	53.1	43.2
Turkeys	Lb.	35.7	37.0	38.7

1/ The estimated prices shown in the table represent composite average prices received by producers. They are averages for all grades, classes and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

2/ Average for market (table) eggs including eggs sold retail by producers.